

**CONFIDENTIAL**BCL F10  
578CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY PolandREPORT NO.  TOPIC Polish Uniforms

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EVALUATION  PLACE OBTAINED  

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DATE OF CONTENT 2 August to 7 October 195025X1  
DATE OBTAINED  DATE PREPARED 19 January 1951REFERENCES  PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)  REMARKS  **RETURN TO CIA  
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1. Army, KDW, WOP and UB units wore brown-green uniforms, while tank, air force and militia units wore steel-grey uniforms. The air force uniforms were a darker shade than the uniforms of the tank and militia soldiers. Silver buttons with the Polish eagle were worn with the steel-grey uniforms; air force soldiers wore a metal eagle on the left-hand side of their uniforms. Militia soldiers wore high collars. (1)
2. The square Polish caps had been replaced with round service caps with ribbons in various colors around them, and with the emblem of the Polish eagle. However, members of the UB were frequently seen wearing the square caps. (2)
3. Officers and EM wore coats with lapels; officers wore ties, while EM, in summer time, did not wear ties but had open shirt collars. (3)
4. During summer months officers were observed wearing light grey gabardine topcoats, belts of the same color and epaulets without insignia of rank. Capes were not seen. (4)
5. Riding boots were worn only by officers; the EM wore only laced shoes and wrap leggings.
6. New service colors were being introduced and were partly in use during the reported period. (5)
7. Small bicolored cloth badges were on the lapels. They included a square patch, about 3x3 cm; a triangular patch the base of which was 2 cm while the two sides were 3 cm each; and a rectangular patch, about 2x3 cm, the narrow side pennon-notched. (5)
8. Ribbons of the following colors were seen on service caps. Light red: This color predominated in all towns occupied by army units. Soldiers with red ribbons around their service caps also wore cloth patches of various colors on their lapels. Light yellow: This color was observed

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with a unit equipped with guns. The soldiers of this unit also wore a bi-colored patch on their left lapel; one of the colors of the patch was yellow. Dark blue was worn by KBW units. Green was worn by WOP units. Black was worn by UB units. (6)

- 25X1 9.  the opinion that in the future the entire Polish army would wear a red ribbon around the service cap, so that the branch of service would show only in the colored cloth patches worn on the coat lapels. (6)

25X1  Comments.

- (1) These data essentially confirm available information. However, it had been believed that the militia was equipped with blue uniforms. Photographs published in the press showed that metal insignia were also worn by members of the army.
- (2) The new service cap was introduced in late 1949.
- (3) Press photographs showed that EM also wore ties with their dress uniforms.
- (4) This is correct and was confirmed by an order of Division General Rotkiewicz, (fmu), and published in the Polish press of September 1950 on the wearing of items of clothing other than those provided by regulations, particularly overcoats.
- (5) From photographs published in the Polish press this statement seems to be correct. It has not yet been possible to obtain definite information regarding the meaning of the insignia worn with uniforms, although numerous photographs are available. Insignia on lapels were chiefly noticed with officers and NCOs, while EM did not wear insignia.
- (6) From pictures published in the Polish press it is believed possible that army units uniformly wear a red ribbon around the service cap. KBW and WOP units wear blue and green stripes, respectively. Both colors are confirmed. Light-yellow and black ribbons around the service caps were reported for the first time.

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